

20010222.ba v03_n112.bam.20010222

>From ???@??? Thu Feb 22 17:31:53 2001 -0600
Date: Thu, 22 Feb 2001 17:28:52 CST
From: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: BOATANCHORS digest 3112
Message-Id: <20010223003926.D0E1A4B5A@devel43.theporch.com>

BOATANCHORS Digest 3112

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) Photo
by Merz Donald S <merz.ds@mellon.com>
- 2) Re: Museums and gear
by Arden Allen <gumbear@pacbell.net>
- 3) Re: Ratty HW-16 hotrod project status and 19545kc xtal sought.
by Arden Allen <gumbear@pacbell.net>
- 4) Museum Donations ... more
by Kd6b@aol.com
- 5) RE: Museum Donations
by "Stephens, Al" <Allan.Stephens@eku.edu>
- 6) RE: how do you inventory your vacuum tubes
by "Paul H. Anderson" <pha@pdq.com>
- 7) Re: BC-342 Horror Stories
by "ROBERT W. DOWNS" <RWDowns_WA5CAB@compuserve.com>
- 8) Museums
by "Eugene Rippen" <soundval@foothill.net>
- 9) paint booths
by "Shriver, John" <john.shriver@intel.com>
- 10) Summary: Vacuum Tube Inventories
by Richard Loken <richardlo@devax.admin.athabasca.ca>
- 11) Re: paint booths
by "Chuck McGregor" <cbmcg@home.com>
- 12) Re: Museums.... Perham Foundation
by Paul Thekan <Paul.Thekan@eimac.cpii.com>
- 13) Re: paint booths
by Arden Allen <gumbear@pacbell.net>
- 14) Re: how do you inventory your vacuum tubes
by "Roberta J. Barmore" <rbarmore@email.msn.com>
- 15) Supreme Audolyzer
by Merz Donald S <merz.ds@mellon.com>
- 16) Re: Summary: Vacuum Tube Inventories
by Arden Allen <gumbear@pacbell.net>
- 17) BC-342: Quandry
by Arden Allen <gumbear@pacbell.net>

Message-ID: <20010222164243.20418.qmail@mellon.com>
From: Merz Donald S <merz.ds@mellon.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Photo
Date: Thu, 22 Feb 2001 11:32:40 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain

I am getting ready to sell a bunch of QCWA news backissues that I have here. So I have been going through them to look for interesting stuff. One photo I came across is probably the best WWII photo I have ever seen of some of our most popular Navy BAs in action. Mostly when I see shots of Navy radio rooms actually in use during the war, the equipment is not always recognizable. But this shot is different. In the picture, 3 guys are sitting at a long table in front of Underwood typewriters. The shelf in front of them is lined with a string of our favorite Navy BA radios: NC-100A, RAK, RAL and RBK (S-36). The ship is not named. The caption just says "W2BAI RM1c USN on Cruiser WWII".

It's great to come across shots of these old radios in their original roles.
73, Don Merz, N3RHT

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Date: Thu, 22 Feb 2001 09:37:14 -0800
From: Arden Allen <gumbear@pacbell.net>
Subject: Re: Museums and gear
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Message-id: <0G96009JE67BSQ@mta6.snfc21.pbi.net>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Hi Ben;

>

Well I for one would not consider "donating" anything to a museum. There are museums here in the UK who, because of thier name, get stuff given to them left right and centre, then what happens to it, it sits there rotting away for lack of funds and staff to do the work.

>

Sounds like an elegant dumpster. I'd like my junkie to go to caring homes, or at least to caring garages.....!!

Arden Allen KB6NAX Vallejo, CA gumbear@pacbell.net

Date: Thu, 22 Feb 2001 09:40:31 -0800
From: Arden Allen <gumbear@pacbell.net>
Subject: Re: Ratty HW-16 hotrod project status and 19545kc xtal sought.
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Message-id: <0G96009N76CUSQ@mta6.snfc21.pbi.net>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Hi Bob;

>
> I haven't figured out how to match.
> New module is 2k in and out.
> Signals are down a bit. Not too much
> to use standalone but too much for use behind the SB-200.
> Have to learn about matching and also figure out if there
> is any room for more gain in preceeding mixer or following
> IF stages. Suggestions welcome.

Sweep and adjust for best shape and throughput.

Arden Allen KB6NAX Vallejo, CA gumbear@pacbell.net

From: Kd6b@aol.com
Message-ID: <b6.1192bf14.27c6ae50@aol.com>
Date: Thu, 22 Feb 2001 13:02:56 EST
Subject: Museum Donations ... more
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

And then there the so called "museums" that are little more than private collections. Just exactly what constitutes a "museum"? Any of us can put labels on our gear and call it a museum, maybe even offer private viewings by appointment only etc.

You are a real sucker if you donate to a museum only to have the gear later sold because the owner wants to make a profit or dosn't need or can't handle the donation in the first place.

Ken

Message-ID: <9A5E9A851B2CD4118F8E0008C7E630A8DF9A72@FSMAIL>
From: "Stephens, Al" <Allan.Stephens@eku.edu>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: RE: Museum Donations
Date: Thu, 22 Feb 2001 13:17:47 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

Remember the closing scene from "Raiders of the Lost Ark...?"

73, Al N5AIT

-----Original Message-----
From: Merz Donald S [mailto:merz.ds@mellon.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2001 9:58 AM
To: Old Tube Radios
Subject: RE: Museum Donations

Ben Nock wrote:

> Well I for one would not consider "donating" anything to a museum. There
> are museums here in the UK who, because of thier name, get stuff given to
> them left right and centre, then what happens to it, it sits there rotting
> away for lack of funds and staff to do the work.

>

Here in the US, it is fashionable to donate stuff to the Smithsonian. Yet the outcome is always the same. Either they don't have space, they don't have staff time or they are not interested. Even small museums like the AWA's museum in New York have several "de-accessioning" events per year where they auction or sell stuff that was donated that they can't or don't want to handle. I'd consider carefully any museum donation. Ask them if they actually want it or if they just want to sell it to pay next month's electricity bill.

73, Don Merz, N3RHT

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Date: Thu, 22 Feb 2001 13:44:29 -0500 (EST)
From: "Paul H. Anderson" <pha@pdq.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
cc: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: RE: how do you inventory your vacuum tubes
Message-ID: <Pine.BSF.4.21.0102221339540.3238-1000000@pdq.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Hello, all,

Dennis was kind enough to share his work with others. You can download his Microsoft Excel spreadsheet at:

<<http://www.pdq.com/boatanchors/tubes>>

I looked it over briefly, and it appears to me to be very complete.
Thanks, again, Dennis!

My web site is only just limping along - comments are welcome, but I know it is far from finished.

Paul

On Wed, 21 Feb 2001, Gibbs, Dennis wrote:

> Hello Richard and the Group,
>
> You really touched on a hot topic for me.
>
> I recently completed a spreadsheet in Microsoft Excel. It accepts the
> following as inputs:
>
> 1) The model number of each type of equipment I own that uses tubes.
> 2) The quantity of that particular model I own (for example, I own 4 R390As)
> 3) The tube complement of each item of equipment.
> 4) The number of NOS tubes I own for each tube type listed in the
> spreadsheet.
>
> The spreadsheet then computes the total number of each tube type needed to
> re-tube all my pieces of equipment once.
>
> It also computes whether I have enough of each tube type in stock according
> to my desired inventory level. If I do not, it flags that tube with a red
> flag and specifies how many I need to acquire to meet my desired inventory
> level. I always take this sheet with me to hamfests.

>
> It also computes if I have a significant number of tube types above and
> beyond my desired inventory level. For each tube type that meets this
> criteria, it flags it as green, and specifies how many I can sell or trade
> without going below my desired inventory level.
>
> Finally, I have entered the value of each tube as specified in the Antique
> Electronic Supply catalog for each year since 1992. It then computes the
> total value of my tube inventory. I picked the AES price lists because they
> seem to set the high water mark for most tube types.
>
> Yes, I know, I had too much time on my hands one day. It started as an
> exercise to become more proficient with Excel, and I just kept adding to
> it.....
>
> Dennis
>
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: Richard Loken [mailto:richardlo@devax.admin.athabascau.ca]
> Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2001 1:59 PM
> To: Old Tube Radios
> Subject: how do you inventory your vacuum tubes
>
>
> Do you inventory your vacuum tubes?
>
> It is about time I did since there are so many that I can't keep track of
> them and with the price of a 12AT7 approaching the price of a fair copy of
> the
> "Radiotron Designers Handbook" it will be darned expensive to buy new tubes
> because I am too lazy to look through all my boxes.
>
> Anybody computerize their tubes? How do you record them and what kind of
> information do you record and/or find useful?
>
> I have assigned my 14 year old to type them into files on the computer and
> we will go on from there to perhaps adding short descriptions ("remote
> cutoff
> RF pentode" or whatever) and then listing the stuff around the house and
> whatever type of tubes it requires. I offered \$5.00 an hour which is better
> pay then his brother makes at Wendy's but there is no assurance of long term
> employment.
> ---
> Richard Loken VE6BSV, Systems Programmer - VMS
> Athabasca University
> Athabasca, Alberta Canada
> ** richardlo@admin.athabascau.ca **

>
>

```
+-----+  
| Paul Anderson          Public Data Queries, Inc. |  
| pha@pdq.com           734-213-4964 x308         |  
+-----+
```

Date: Thu, 22 Feb 2001 13:46:23 -0500
From: "ROBERT W. DOWNS" <RWDowns_WA5CAB@compuserve.com>
Subject: Re: BC-342 Horror Stories
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Message-ID: <200102221346_MC2-C675-1237@compuserve.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-Disposition: inline

Message text written by Marty
>o Oversized fuse in WW2 radio causes black-out in Brownsville<

No. It was actually only a Brown-out. :-)

Robert Downs
<RWDowns_WA5CAB@compuserve.com>
Houston

Message-ID: <00ab01c09cff\$b790fd60\$d5d2abd8@foothill.net>
From: "Eugene Rippen" <soundval@foothill.net>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Museums
Date: Thu, 22 Feb 2001 10:45:00 -0800
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="Windows-1252"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Which is worse? The scammer that says he wants gear for a museum, he may or may not have, then sells it to some other person who wants it; or is it some outfit like Perham Foundation that hides the stuff in leaking storages to very infrequently display a small token amount? Personally, I'd rather be taken by that first con artist, there would be a better chance of the items being

diplayed and or used.

One more comment. Some of us, myself included, and California Historical Radio Society, of which I am a member, have repeatedly looked for permanent homes to display items in a museum manner, all to no avail. Real estate is just too high, at least here in California, and even with a gift of a location, the cost of maintenance and property taxes are a big hurdle. Hate to admit it, but the interest in our kind of stuff, may not be large enough to carry the financial burdon of some permanent displays.

What I am speaking of is public museums. I realize that there are nice private (invitation only) displays, and some semi public at people's residences. So far, Arlene and I have decided to keep our privacy and control of our time, rather than to do such. A personal choice by us.

Keep in mind that most big museums, only display a small portion of their holdings at any one time.

Depressing, isn't it? I need to cheer up. Look at what is displayed for us to see.

Gene

> And then there the so called "museums" that are little more than private
> collections. Just exactly what constitutes a "museum"? Any of us can put
> labels on our gear and call it a museum, maybe even offer private viewings
by
> appointment only etc.
> You are a real sucker if you donate to a museum only to have the gear
later
> sold because the owner wants to make a profit or dosn't need or can't
handle
> the donation in the first place.
> Ken
>
>

Message-ID: <D1892B7198A4D411BB7500A0C9692EC6B359BB@hdsmsx34.hd.intel.com>
From: "Shriver, John" <john.shriver@intel.com>

To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: paint booths
Date: Thu, 22 Feb 2001 12:18:23 -0800
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="ISO-8859-1"

There are nice paint booths made for the scale model industry, for painting model railroad models, plastic models, etc. Check the Walthers catalog at www.walthers.com, among other places. But most are moderate in size, probably the largest would handle a 14" foot cube, which is pretty small for a boatanchor. But there must be larger ones available.

They got much more popular in the model railroad world after a well-known custom painter of railroad models killed his liver by not using proper precautions, leading to his untimely demise. (The most popular brand of model railroad paint [Floquil] has [had?] a Xylene base.)

These paint hoods are basically a mass of tin (duct metal, galvanized steel), a furnace filter, a light, and an explosion-proof blower. (Would be rather nasty to have the exhaust fan be the source of ignition, making the exhaust stream a wall of flame!)

I suspect given a decent sketch, any sheet metal shop doing ductwork could "knock" one up. The only tricky thing is to find the right exhaust blower. (Although I wonder why any brushless induction motor wouldn't be suitable.)

Obviously a respirator is a necessary adjunct.

I don't think any type of painting would work out in the driveway today, with a high of 20 degrees...

Date: Thu, 22 Feb 2001 13:27:44 -0700 (MST)
From: Richard Loken <richardlo@devax.admin.athabascau.ca>
Subject: Summary: Vacuum Tube Inventories
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Message-id:
<Pine.PMDF.3.95.1010222125734.541122782M-1000000@devax.admin.athabascau.ca>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Thankyou gentlemen for your input.

About a dozen people had something to say about vacuum tube inventories and the results vary with the individual personalities and available tools IMHO.

Don Merz, who certainly has the experiance to know what he is doing, votes for

no formal inventory but keeps his inventory by the manner in which the tubes are sorted and stored. I don't have the real estate to apply that technique to my satisfaction. When I worked at CJOC television in 1973 we had a home made wooden wall rack measuring 1m high by 2m wide and it had a variety of cubby holes cut to hold the right size tube boxes, we didn't need an inventory because we could walk up to the rack with a pencil and paper and note down the tubes that we needed to order. I wish I had that rack and the space for it.

A good number of people use Microsoft Access and Excell to do the job with some difference in opinion on what should be in the database. That is a good approach since such a database can be implemented quickly and the software is very widely available. I see that one list member has his version available to be shared, thats fabulous! Maybe in a few months there will be a few more people with tube databases.

A few people just keep the information in flat files and update and sort them with an editor. I have Unix and that will work quite well for me because I have "awk, grep, sed, and sort" available to allow me to maintain a host of such files and built fairly robust report generation scripts. The problem with this approach is that data entry is a little (but not a lot) clumsy.

One confessed to having used dBaseII on a CP/M box once upon a time. I tried that and the results were pretty good but I never kept it up to date for some CP/M and 8" floppy disk specific reasons.

I don't have any of Bill's toys here, only Unix, so my first attempt was to find dBase for Unix or a dBase clone for Unix but that software is no longer easily obtained so I won't be porting over my CP/M database to Unix.

I asked the Linux aficionados at work how they would do it and the response was to use an SQL database too and a web interface for data entry and reporting. And they were serious! (Yeah right. And I have an order into Kenwood for the latest rice rocket with a built in panadapter, computer interface, and voice synthesizer frequency reporting too.)

If you are going to computerize your tube inventory then you must be willing to keep it current (I think Don pointed that out also). That hinges on the individual's personality, the convenience of the computer, and how frequently the inventory changes and how much it changes. I do computers for a living and I wrestle the home machine away from the kids at least once a week to balance the chequebook and things of that sort so I think I will keep the database current.

Today flat files and management scripts. Tomorrow? SQL and a web interface?

Once again, thank you all for your input.

Richard Loken VE6BSV, Systems Programmer - VMS

Athabasca University
Athabasca, Alberta Canada
** richardlo@admin.athabascau.ca **

Message-ID: <005a01c09d13\$2adf7180\$6401a8c0@home>
From: "Chuck McGregor" <cbmcg@home.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: paint booths
Date: Thu, 22 Feb 2001 13:05:20 -0800
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

> These paint hoods are basically a mass of tin (duct metal, galvanized
> steel), a furnace filter, a light, and an explosion-proof blower.

For medium size work, a large refrigerator or upright freezer can provide
the tinwork, also shelves. With added heat lamps, refrigerator cabinets
make good ovens for baked finishes (if the paints for them are available
anymore).

> (Although I wonder why any brushless induction motor wouldn't be
suitable.)

Any blower incapable of producing a spark oughta be ok.

Also an air inlet filter - so that the incoming air (to replace the exhaust)
doesn't bring a load of workshop dirt to your fresh paint.

Wish I had space for a paint booth.

--Chuck N7RHU

Message-Id: <4.2.0.58.20010222140644.00bb4d10@pop3.eimac.cpii.com>
Date: Thu, 22 Feb 2001 14:07:21 -0800
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
From: Paul Thekan <Paul.Thekan@eimac.cpii.com>
Subject: Re: Museums.... Perham Foundation
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

At 10:45 AM 2/22/01 -0800, you wrote:

>Which is worse? The scammer that says he wants

>gear for a museum, he may or may not have, then sells it to some other
>person who wants it; or is it some outfit like Perham Foundation that hides
>the stuff in leaking storages to very infrequently
>display a small token amount? Personally,
>I'd rather be taken by that first con artist, there
>would be a better chance of the items being
>diplayed and or used.

I think that is a cheap shot Gene concerning your comments on the Perham Foundation. The containers I have seen and been in are in no way the "leaking storages" that you describe but rather 20 foot cargo containers in good repair. The more valuable pieces of the collection are secured in a temperature controlled environment. The large collection of Eimac papers that were given to Perham are on loan to Lud Sibley who has or is still going through the 60 plus file boxes loaded with documentation from Eimacs early days. He is sorting and cataloging this vast collection. He has been publishing info garnered from these files in his own publication as well as a recent article in the AWA Old Timers Bulletin. Had we not been able to have the Perham foundation take this collection it or a large portion of it would have been tossed into the dumpster or just a portion of it would have been scattered to many individual collectors but rather Perham came , boxed and sorted the ENTIRE collection and gave it shelter.

As to the "infrequent display of a small token amount" . When the museum lost their building up at Foothill College that put an end to the displaying of the collection. Some pieces have been put on display at Fry's Electronics and I think the SF airport but am not 100% sure about that.

The Foundation is trying to establish a museum in the area but because of the high cost of real estate here in the SF Bay Area it is nearly impossible. The people involved with Perham are well intentioned and are in there doing their best. They are frustrated with the situation but have done their best to keep the collection all together until the day comes, and hopefully that will be soon , that it can all be put on display and enjoyed by us all.

I wonder how many of us would take to having to handle the moving and storing of 40 20 foot cargo containers over the last several years. Having to move this fleet of containers when told you can no longer store them here and now must scramble to find a affordable site to move all this too , especially in this area!!

While maybe mistakes have been made and things done differently , the bottom line is that the collection is still whole thanks to the efforts of some dedicated people.

Paul Thekan

N6FEG

Date: Thu, 22 Feb 2001 14:11:50 -0800
From: Arden Allen <gumbear@pacbell.net>
Subject: Re: paint booths
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Message-id: <0G9600HPLIWZ13@mta5.snfc21.pbi.net>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Painters;

A cheap and reasonably practical "paint booth" for indoor painting is a few 1x1 sticks of wood and a plastic tarpaulin. Make the painting chamber a four foot cube. Rig up a lazy susan for rotating the work piece and a couple of overhead rods for hanging items. Install four 75 watt indoor directional lamps in the ceiling corners. Fasten the tarpaulin on top and on three sides. Make the "front door" like a tent flap that lifts up. Put snaps or hooks to keep it snugly closed. No fans, just a ducted (to keep out dust) ventilation port in the ceiling and an open bottom. The tarp keeps out the dust when not in use, controls overspray, and keeps out the dust while the work piece is drying. Warm up your piece under the lights before painting. Open flap, paint, close flap. Go into potato mode.

Arden Allen KB6NAX Vallejo, CA gumbear@pacbell.net

Message-ID: <005f01c09d1e\$686e1b40\$c05e0387@satellite>
From: "Roberta J. Barmore" <rbarmore@email.msn.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: how do you inventory your vacuum tubes
Date: Thu, 22 Feb 2001 17:25:45 -0500

Hi!

I shall probably be thought quite the Luddite, but I tend to do inventory-tracking in the manner I was taught to use for power tubes:

On file cards, in a box. One card per *tube* for the big, expensive ones (they do develop a history and the ones at work come with warranties!), one card per *tube* *number* for the prosaic sort. And other similar devices can be cardfiled as well--h'mm, I may have to start in on that!

If I think I'm short of something, I look it up, and before the hamfest, I take out my fountain pen (or the trusty L. C. Smith Corona "flipover" typewriter, ca. approx 1925) and make up a list on paper.

I have found this system to work quite well.

Things that I will *always* examine closely at any hamfest include reduction drives/scales ("Vernier drives," so-called), knobs, variable

condensers, old-style RF chokes, pre-octal 7-pin ceramic sockets, 4 through 7 pin "breadboard" sockets, plug-in coil forms, long-frame jacks, "fat" phone plugs, old headphones, "doorknob" crystals and Morse keys. Many of those items cannot be bought new at any price and are therefore usefully purchased at hamfests if the price is right. ...And one does happen to have a use for them; the Collins, Heathkit or Drake aficionado would have different "basic want" lists, as do each one of us; it's handy to sit down and list your own one out.

73,
--Bobbi

(For anyone who's been following my annoying health saga: I'm still sick but at least not as much as I was. Hence the greater frequency of posting).

Roberta J. (Bobbi) Barmore KB9GKX "RJ" rbarmore@email.msn.com
SOWP 5598-TA * FISTS 3388 * ARRL * RSGB
Builder, restorer and user of vintage keys and tube-type ham gear

Message-ID: <20010222230021.25437.qmail@mellon.com>
From: Merz Donald S <merz.ds@mellon.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Supreme Audolyzer
Date: Thu, 22 Feb 2001 17:54:51 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain

I am looking for a manual copy for a 1930's signal tracer called the Supreme Audolyzer. Please let me know if you can help.
Thanks.
73, Don Merz, N3RHT

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Date: Thu, 22 Feb 2001 15:00:29 -0800
From: Arden Allen <gumbear@pacbell.net>
Subject: Re: Summary: Vacuum Tube Inventories
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Message-id: <0G9600HXPL6213@mta5.snfc21.pbi.net>
MIME-version: 1.0

Content-type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Hi Rich;

>If you are going to computerize you tube inventory then you must
be willing
> to keep it current (I think Don pointed that out also).

Among others. Here is an old tech method you don't see practiced much
these days of slaving for machines: Keep a clipboard handy in your tube
storage area. It should have a piece of paper and a pencil with it (I'm
being facetious). This is your **transaction register**. Every time you
take and/or add a tube right down the type and the location (box number?)
and a + or - sign. Once a week or so launch your database and update it.
Minimum work, maximum maintenance of inventory. Oh yeah, don't forget the
pencil sharpener.....hi!

Arden Allen KB6NAX Vallejo, CA gumbear@pacbell.net

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From: Arden Allen <gumbear@pacbell.net>
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If your not sick of the BC-342 thread read on.....

I overhauled the power supply by replacing the short-prong two-terminal
male AC connector with a hard wired three wire cord. This radio NEEDS a
three wire power cord because of the meandering through the chassis primary
circuit wiring, goofy front panel OFF-MVC-AVC switch, and safety
conciousless wiring in the power supply. A new near flush mounting fuse
holder similar to the original, tightening of the loose hardware (how did
these things keep from falling apart?) and the power supply was ready for
test. There was no "electrolytic reforming" that I could detect and the
cap was working just fine. Me thinks it is an oil/paper dielectric cap.
Hard to tell what's hiding in that can but it works.

Here comes the glitch: TM-11-4001 (1945) says (para. 13.c) "Check the
high-voltage ouput of the rectifier (name of the power supply) using a
16,500-ohm, 25-watt resistor as a dummy load across the (disconnected) 250V

terminals of the rectifier terminal board. The output should be approximatesly 260 volts." After a few double takes squared and a check of test equipment I accepted the fact that my voltmeter was telling the truth by saying 360 volts. 100 too many volts. Well, 260 volts across 16.5K produces 15.76 milliamps of current. The tube socket voltage check diagram says the 6F6 audio output has a cathode current of 25 milliamps with a screen voltage of 260 volts which is connected to the output of the power supply. I loaded the power supply down until I got 260 volts output and that occured at 70 milliamps. Summing up all of the cathode currents from the chart (cathode voltage/cathode resistance) I get 81 milliamps. Just another SNAFU folks. But I can't decide if the "260 volts or the "16,500 ohms" is wrong. Life is full of uncertainties. Anyone else have this experience?

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End of BOATANCHORS Digest 3112
